

NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Rural Development
Rm. 152 Federal Building • 100 Centennial Mall North • Lincoln, NE 68508
Phone: (402) 437-5563 • Fax: (402) 437-5408 • TDY: (402) 437-5093 • Web: http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ne

Janice Stopak (402) 423-9683

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTS MEMORIAL COMMUNITY HEALTH, INC.

Aurora, Neb., June 27, 2006—The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development has awarded a \$3,240,000 loan to Memorial Community Health, Inc. of Aurora, Neb. Funds will construct a new surgery suite and remodel existing space that will benefit the 16,442 rural residents of Hamilton and Clay counties. Local financing of \$750,000 will assist with project equipment.

"This project is part of our organization's master facility plan and will be important in providing quality healthcare to the community well into the future," stated CEO Diane Keller, Memorial Community Health, Inc.

The new facility will include eight pre-operative rooms, two operating and bed recovery rooms, along with central supply, processing and locker rooms. Existing space will be remodeled into two labor and delivery rooms, a new laboratory, along with waiting rooms for both obstetrics and surgery.

"The improvements to the hospital will help in meeting the medical needs of the residents of Aurora and surrounding communities." stated Janice Stopak, community programs specialist, USDA Rural Development.

USDA Rural Development funding provided via its' Community Facility Direct Loan program. Loan terms are 40 years at 4.375 percent interest.

For additional information contact Janice Stopak, (402) 423-9683, (402) 437-5093 (TDY); janice.stopak@ne.usda.gov; 6030 S. 58th Street, Suite B, Lincoln, NE 68516. Visit http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ne/.

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